

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNIDO E AID

SUBJECT: UNIDO EVALUATION

REF: STATE 179521

1. DURING CALL AT MISSION, OKUMU (KENYA) WHO FORMERLY WITH INDUSTRIAL PROGRAMMING SECTION OF IPP DIVISION INFORMED US THAT HE HAD BEEN RECENTLY ASSIGNED TO WORK UNDER AFIFI TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING GUIDELINES AND METHODOLOGY FOR FUTURE UNIDO EVALUATION ACTIVITIES IN FOLLOW-UP OF THE PC/IDB DISCUSSION LAST SPRING.

2. OKUMU SAID THAT FOLLOWING AN INTENSIVE REVIEW OF WHERE UNIDO STOOD IN RESPECT OF THIS MATTER HE WAS NOW BEGINNING DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT INTENDED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF HIS ASSIGNMENT.

SPECIFICALLY, HIS AIM WAS PRODUCE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR SUBMISSION TO AFIFI AND ABDEL-RAHMAN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IN THIS CONNECTION OKUMU, WHO WAS FAMILIAR WITH OUR PREVIOUS EXCHANGES WITH AFIFI CONCERNING KITCHELL'S TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT TO VIENNA, SAID THAT HE WAS MOST ANXIOUS TO BE ABLE TO

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WORK TOGETHER WITH KITCHELL AND TO HAVE THE BENEFIT

OF HIS ADVICE AND EXPERIENCE. HE ASKED WHETHER KITCHELL COULD ARRIVE IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE AND NOTED THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE TO PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE IN UNIDO.

3. AS REGARDS TIME-FRAME FOR SUBMISSION OF RESULTS OF HIS WORK TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, OKUMU SAID IT WAS NOT NOW POSSIBLE TO AIM FOR PC-V AND THAT IT WAS PLANNED TO SUBMIT MATERIAL IN TIME TO ENABLE DISCUSSION IN DEPTH AT IDB-IX.

4. DURING CONVERSATION OKUMU MENTIONED THAT, AS AN EARNEST OF THEIR INTEREST IN THE MATTER OF EVALUATION AND DESIRE TO HELP UNIDO GIVE GIVE PROPER ATTENTION TO THIS SUBJECT, SWITZERLAND HAS EARMARKED A PORTION OF ITS MOST RECENT 1.5 MILLION SWISS FRANC CONTRIBUTION TO BE USED BY UNIDO IN DEVELOPING A BETTER APPROACH TO EVALUATION. UTILIZATION OF THIS CONTRIBUTION WILL BE LARGELY UNDER CONTROL OF AFIFI AND OKUMU.

5. COMMENT: OKUMU IS CAPABLE, HARVARD-TRAINED STAFF MEMBER. HE WAS OUTSPOKEN IN HIS COMMENTS ON NEED FOR THOROUGH OVERHAUL OF UNIDO'S APPROACH TO EVALUATION. WHAT HE SUCCEEDS IN PRODUCING AND GETTING ACCEPTED BY AFIFI AND EXEC. DIRECTOR REMAINS TO BE SEEN. THE FACT THAT THIS IS A RELATIVELY NEW FIELD FOR HIM MAY LARGELY EXPLAIN HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR THE PROSPECT OF OUTSIDE HELP. BE THAT AS IT MAY, THERE APPEARS TO BE GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO WORK IN THIS AREA DIRECTLY WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT. MISSION WOULD, THEREFORE, APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED WHEN KITCHELL MAY BE EXPECTED HERE. OKUMU APPOINTMENT SEEMS PRETTY MUCH TO ELIMINATE MCCUSKER ROLE IN EVALUATION WHICH IN ANY CASE NEVER LOOKED LIKE GETTING OFF THE GROUND GIVEN DAGUERRE PROBLEM REPORTED EARLIER. RE TIME FRAME ENVISAGED FOR SECRETARIAT WORK (PARA 3), ALTHOUGH IDB-VIII CONCLUSION ON EVALUATION (PARA 146, ID/B/144) PROVIDES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT PC-V ON BASIS OF ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS DELEGATION MIGHT WISH TO BRING FORWARD, WE FEEL CHANCES OF HAVING USEFUL DISCUSSION ARE GREATER AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IDB-IX THAN PC-V IF WE ALSO THEN HAVE IN HAND RESULTS OF WORK NOW BEING INITIATED BY SECRETARIAT. STIBRAVY

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